



Physician Health Information Technology (HIT) Survey

2011 PHYSICIAN REPORT

Prepared for:

Rhode Island Department of Health
Three Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

Prepared by:

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Department of Health

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Dear Rhode Island Healthcare Consumers,

Thank you for your interest in the 2011 Physician Health Information Technology (HIT) Survey. In 1998, Rhode Island passed a law that requires the public release of information about the quality of care in all licensed healthcare facilities. In 2006, that law was expanded to include doctors, also called physicians.

The Physician Report is the third annual report about how doctors are using computers to manage care for the patients they see. Increasing the use of computers in health care is supported by the Governor and others who are want to improve how health care is provided in Rhode Island.

The doctors included in this report are all licensed by the Rhode Island Department of Health (HEALTH). **Doctors are listed alphabetically based on their last name.** Their Rhode Island license number and the state in which they see patients are also included. The report includes information for five topics, or measures:

Measure 1: EMRs

Doctors with computer systems, or electronic medical records (EMRs), that track patients' health care (Yes or No)

Measure 2: 'Qualified' EMRs

Doctors with 'qualified' EMRs, or computer systems that can perform certain tasks (Yes or No)

Measure 3: Basic Functionality Use

Among doctors who have EMRs, how often they use their EMRs to perform certain *basic tasks* (a score from 0-100)

Measure 4: Advanced Functionality Use

Among doctors who have EMRs, how often they use their EMRs to perform certain *advanced tasks* (a score from 0-100)

Measure 5: e-Prescribing

Doctors who send their patients' prescriptions electronically, or "e-prescribe" (Yes or No)

For more detailed information about these measures, see the Measure Specifications document available on HEALTH's Web site: <http://www.health.ri.gov/physicians/about/quality/>

Many of the physicians in this report responded to the Physician HIT Survey in January and February 2011. **If they did not respond to this required survey, doctors are reported as not using computers to care for their patients.** This means they have "No" for Measures 1, 2, and 5, and N/A (not applicable) for Measure 3 and 4. If you have questions about your doctor's use of computers to manage your health care, please ask your doctor.

To get information about other licensed healthcare providers, such as nursing homes, hospitals, or home health agencies, please visit the public reporting program's Web site (<http://www.health.ri.gov/programs/healthcarequalityreporting/index.php>) or call the Department of Health (401-222-2231).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Samara Viner-Brown".

Samara Viner-Brown, MS
Chief, Center for Health Data and Analysis

Physician Report Footnotes:

NOTES:

- The 2011 Physician HIT Survey is the fourth administration of this annual survey, but the third to publicly report physician-level data. The first survey, in 2008, was a pilot effort and was reported in aggregate form only.
- See the Measure Specifications for definitions of these measures and the Summary Report for detailed information about the averages.
- Physicians' names and license numbers are taken from the Department of Health's Licensure database and any corrections should be submitted to Licensure.
- Practice location is estimated based on the mailing address physicians provide to HEALTH during licensure.
- Non-response to the survey is reported as non-use of HIT, or "No" for Measures 1, 2, and 5 and "N/A" for Measure 3 and 4.

EMR: Electronic Medical Record, sometimes called an Electronic Health Record or EHR.

- * Estimated based on the mailing address physicians provide to the Department of Health during licensure. Any corrections should be submitted to Licensure.
- † N/A: Does not meet eligibility criteria for reporting (i.e., is not licensed in RI, MA, or CT, AND/OR does not provide direct patient care).
- § Scores range from 0-100 based on use of indicated functionalities; see Measure Specifications for definitions. N/A: Not applicable because the physician does not meet eligibility criteria for reporting (i.e., is not licensed in RI, MA, or CT, or does not provide direct patient care) OR because the physician does not have an EMR.
- ** Reflects data for 3,388 physicians (2,132 survey respondents AND 1,249 non-respondents) with RI licenses who practice in RI, MA, or CT (estimated based on the mailing addresses self-reported to the Department of Health during licensure); some physicians are excluded from Measures 3 and 4 if they do not have an EMR. See the Summary Report for details including the number of physicians included in each measure's benchmark. Because survey non-respondents (who automatically fail the measures) are included in the aggregate data, the benchmark and Summary Report reflect conservative estimates (underestimates) of HIT use.